ACRL/CLS Standards Committee
Meeting Minutes
9:30am - Saturday – January 25, 2003
Doubletree – Sonata 3 Room

Present: Members - Bill Nelson (Chair), Liz Chabot, Bob Fernekes, Rhonna Goodman, J.B. Hill (Recorder) and John Pollitz.

The meeting was called to order at 9:35am.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved and roster corrections were made via e-mail prior to the meeting.

Report of email discussion held prior to Midwinter meeting
Here is the report filed with CLS by the Committee chair:

Standards Committee Report -- Bill Nelson
The Standards Committee had an asynchronous email discussion last week (Jan. 6 - 10) to provide those who will not be attending Midwinter an opportunity for committee input. Two main issues were discussed:

1. Lis Chabot is leading a committee effort on an "Assessment Toolkit" project. The Committee hoped to sponsor a roundtable discussion at the Charlotte meeting. ACRL was not able to accommodate a Forum on this topic at the upcoming conference in Charlotte. The forum concept did not "fit" any of the standard ACRL activity categories. One action she suggested was that Bill Nelson and Bob Fernekes could bring this idea to the Midwinter meeting of the College and Research Libraries Standards Task Force for discussion, since the task force has representation from CLS, ULS, and CJCLS.

2. At the request of a committee member, Bill Nelson posted the current list he compiled of those libraries that have applied the College Library Standards (2000 edition) in whole or in part. He then posted a request to collib-l, ULS-l, and CJCL-l in order to gain additional information regarding those applying, or planning to apply, the standards. He is still receiving replies, and welcomes any input from the Board. Comments from the online discussion will be shared at the Midwinter meeting and included in the committee minutes.

Additional notes: The workbook on the CLS Standards by Bill Nelson & Bob Fernekes was published in November. Information about the publication is available from ACRL; an article was also published in the November issue of C&RL News regarding the standards; Bob and Bill will be presenting an ACRL preconference workshop at Midwinter and at ACRL.

Agenda items:
Review Committee Charge. The review of the committee charge and name was tabled until the ACRL Standards and Accreditation Committee makes a decision on the inclusion of “accreditation” in its charge/name.

“Virtual” CLS Committee Meetings at Midwinter. With the adoption of virtual meetings by CLS, the Standards Committee was one of the few committees holding a “physical” meeting at Midwinter. Committee members reported on their experience with CLS virtual meetings and suggested possible methods and challenges for conducting virtual meetings.

Charlotte Roundtable Proposal. Liz provided the committee and update on the proposal. There will be no roundtable at the ACRL Meeting in Charlotte, as there was not enough time to put together a program and it was determined that a roundtable was not the best format for a discussion of the standards. The next possibility for a forum will be at the 2004 ALA Annual Conference in Orlando. Liz agreed to investigate.

Preconference Workshops. Bill reported on the Philadelphia Midwinter preconference workshop. The preconference was a success with 78 people registered (and approximately 74 in attendance). The full-day workshop provided approximately 6 hours contact time. Bob and Bill concluded this was one of the most successful workshops that they had conducted.

The next workshop is scheduled as a preconference for the ACRL meeting in Charlotte. ACRL reports that 30 people have already preregistered. Bill will investigate the possibility of a preconference prior to the Annual Meeting in Orlando, either as an ACRL national preconference or an ACRL Florida Chapter workshop.

The committee unanimously voted to charge Bill to request an ACRL grant to fund additional, regional workshops.

College and Research Libraries Standards Task Force. Bill and Bob are serving as members of the task force investigating the possibility of adapting the CLS standards for use by all types of academic libraries. Bill suggested that only a few changes would be needed for the CLS standards to be made applicable to all academic libraries. A task force report is expected to be available by the next meeting and Bill agreed to keep the committee apprised of the task force’s activities.

Online Tutorial. The CLS Continuing Education Committee still has plans to create an online tutorial on the standards. However, with Bill and Bob’s book, there may no longer be a need. Liz suggested that a Web Page could be created to serve as a toolkit to assist in the application of the standards. The Web page could have links to sites of libraries that had applied the standards.

Libraries Applying CLS Standards. Bill distributed a handout that identified academic libraries that were using (to varying degrees) the CLS standards. This list contained both large and small libraries, including many that are represented by other ACRL sections.

Other Business. As the current standards were adopted 3 years ago, Rhonna wondered if the time for a revision was approaching. Bill suggested that the committee consider the issue at the
next meeting after reviewing the report of the College and Research Libraries Standards Task Force.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05.